

FOR INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION

NAHIP Advisory Committee Annual Meeting 2025

Agenda Item 2.2

Last updated: **8 May** 2025

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INTENSIVE INDUSTRY REPORT**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the NAHIS Advisory Committee NOTE:
 - a. **The various surveillance activities conducted in the intensive industry**

BACKGROUND

2. AHA Industry Forum (IF) provides a platform for industry representatives to discuss livestock health, welfare and biosecurity matters of common interest.
3. This paper aims to provide an overview of surveillance activities and/or reporting from an industry perspective. It will also aim to highlight areas where NAHIP may be able to better assist industry members in these surveillance programs.

DISCUSSION**4. Australian Pork Limited (APL) Evidence of Absence (EoA) Surveillance Project**

The Evidence of Absence Surveillance project was completed in July 2024. Animal Health Australia had put in an Expression of Interest to conduct another surveillance project for APL. However, as AHA is currently undergoing a restructure, they were unable to further develop a full research proposal for APL for the continued delivery of the APL EoA project which is to include JEV. AHA is also looking to remove the APL EoA Guidelines page from their website.

5. Australian Pork Limited (APL) Pilot JEV Surveillance Project

APL started a small JEV sero-surveillance pilot project in domestic pigs this summer due to the heightened JEV risk profile. The objective of the project is to look for evidence of transmission across six former infected premises in QLD, NSW and VIC – two farms per state with 20 blood samples per week of finishing pigs at slaughter, per farm, through to late March/early April.

A seropositive detected in this manner would still lag behind actual transmission and subsequent infection, but would provide information that there had been an infection in a far closer timeframe from the transmission event than currently.

Antibody production is fairly rapid post-JEV infection, a sero-surveillance may assist the detection if transmission is occurring rather than waiting for sows to farrow affected litters. Any evidence of seroconversion could be used to better inform farm-level risk and allow industry to prepare, to the extent they can, for potential impact on breeding sows.

Results for the different States:

Victoria – all negative

QLD – 102/410 (positive); 118/410 (inconclusive); 190/410 (negative) - 1 more week of testing

NSW – 84/320 samples (positive); 75/320 samples (inconclusive); 161/320 (negative) - 4 more weeks of testing

6. Australian Duck Meat Association (ADMA)

ADMA has undertaken an analysis of the avian Influenza isolations in ducks from 1976-2024. 12 isolations have occurred over this period, with 11/12 low pathogenic viruses. The last isolation occurred in 2024 of the H7 N3 in the Lethbridge area.

4 isolations in ducks ended in EADRA processes due to proximity to other poultry farms (Fowl).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. Generally, surveillance programs are primarily funded through a cost-shared agreement with the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and Australian state and territory government agencies they also receive significant financial or in-kind contributions from surveillance partners such as industry, non-government organisations and universities.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

8. NA

NEXT STEPS/ACTIONS

9. None

Attachment A: N/A